

Express Mail Label #EL540189630US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: NORBERT MILLER, ET AL.

FOR: METHOD FOR THE AUTOMATION OF ALLOCATION PROCESSES FOR  
PRODUCTS AND/OR SERVICES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Assistant Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL540189630

Date of Deposit January 24, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail  
Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10  
on the date indicated above and is addressed to the  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,  
D.C. 20231.

Jennifer Matson

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Jennifer Matson

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Sir:

Prior to the Examiner acting in the above-referenced application, please preliminary  
amend the specification and claims as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, please insert --FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 1, between lines 8 and 9, please insert --DESCRIPTION OF THE  
RELATED ART--.

Page 2, between lines 3 and 4, please insert --SUMMARY OF THE  
INVENTION--.

Page 7, between lines 3 and 4, please insert --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE  
DRAWINGS--.

NE Page 7, between lines 9 and 10, please insert --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF  
PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--.

Please delete page 12 in its entirety.